Amendments to the Claims

1. (currently amended) A method of monitoring changes in an information set of wagers placed on the outcome of a sporting contest, the method comprising the steps of:

   a. ~~a principal~~ entering into an agreement with a service provider to provide real time ~~activity~~ monitoring service <u>of changes in an information set of wagers placed on the outcome of a sporting contest;</u> [,]

   b. ~~the service provider monitoring a predetermined information set using at least one computer, and~~ <u>receiving real-time wagering data relating to the outcome of a sporting contest on a network of computers;</u>

   c. <u>receiving instructions from a user specifying analysis criteria including at least a target sporting contest, and nominated change in a wagering parameter within a nominated time period prior to the commencement of the target sporting contest which signifies the occurrence of a change in the wagering data significant to the user;</u>

   d. <u>applying the user-specified analysis criteria to the real-time wagering data in real-time; and</u>

   e. ~~the service provider providing~~ <u>causing</u> a real-time alert message to <u>be provided to</u> the ~~principal~~ <u>user</u> via a remote communications device (RCD) ~~when a change occurs~~ <u>upon the occurrence of the change in the nominated wagering parameter within the nominated time period prior to the commencement of the target sporting contest as real-time changes in the wagering data occur, the real-time notification directed to a remote communications device of the user.</u>

2. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the service provider utilises a totalisor agency database to monitor the wagering ~~activity~~ <u>data</u>.

3. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the remote communications device (RCD) comprises the ~~cardholder's~~ <u>user's</u> fixed or mobile telephone, a personal computing device or a facsimile or pager of the ~~cardholder~~ <u>user</u>.

4. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the ~~principal's~~ user's RCD has a software component which can be used to send an input command to a software environment that is running on the network of computer~~s~~ ~~systems~~ of the service provider in response to the input command the software environment sends a local input command to a software environment component that processes the input command and which responds by issuing a local output command to a server infrastructure which in turn sends a remote output command to the ~~cardholder's~~ user's RCD, and in response to a remote output commands, the RCD issues or displays an alert output.

5. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the principal can define parameters of a situation in which alert messages are to be issued.

6. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the service provider uses a network of computers or computer systems to monitor the ~~credit card~~ ~~activity~~ wagering data.

7. (currently amended) A method according to claim 5 wherein the network of computers is adapted to send and receive information to and from a ~~credit card~~ totalisator agency data server ~~and/or a bank data server, each of~~ which contains real time information regarding the ~~transactions of credit cards~~ wagering data.

8. (currently amended) A method according to claim 1 further comprising the step of providing at least one history server, the purpose of which is to provide data to any of the computers, the history server scanning all of the transaction data as it becomes available so that the data never needs to be requested from an outside source more than once, the history server storing the wagering data in a database to prevent the need to request the same information numerous times.

9.   (withdrawn) A method of monitoring and confirming credit card usage, the method comprising the steps of:

    a.   a credit cardholder or principal entering into an agreement with a service provider to provide a real-time credit card transaction data monitoring service,

    b.   the cardholder defining parameters for at least one predetermined anomalous situation,

    c.   the service provider monitoring real-time credit card transaction data using at least one computer and comparing the data to the parameters set by the cardholder and

    d.   the service provider providing a real-time alert message to the cardholder via a remote communications device (RCD) when the predetermined anomalous situation occurs.

10.   (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 8 wherein the ~~cardholder~~ user communicates to the service provider at least one <u>analysis</u> criteria upon which alerts are to be sent.